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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 053785-5118

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
**Customer Window**  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS) UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(d), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. Each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. Moreover, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account 50-0310 in the amount of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and document evidence of consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Copies of the listed documents are attached. The documents included in this IDS were first cited by the Japanese Patent Office in an Office Action dated November 8, 2006 in a related

patent application. A copy of the Office Action from the Japanese Patent Office is enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicant requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

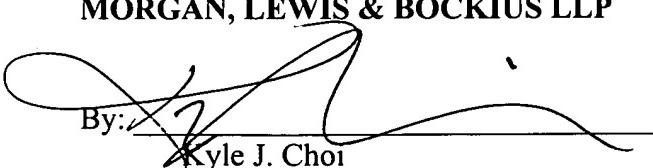
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should any of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

**Except** for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

**MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**

Dated: December 12, 2006

By: 

Kyle J. Choi

Reg. No. 41,480

**CUSTOMER NO. 009629**

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP  
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20004  
Tel.: (202) 739-3000  
Fax: (202) 739-3001

